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12	Compt				
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15	D/PERS				
16	VC/NIC		X		
17	D/SOVA		X		
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Remarks

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Executive Secretary
17 Dec 85

Date

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

December 4, 1985

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We have reviewed the U.S.-Soviet "Joint Statement" from the 19-21 November 1985 Summit meeting in Geneva. We note with concern the following agreed statement:

"The sides...will not seek to achieve military superiority."

Four comments need to be made about this U.S.-Soviet agreement not to seek military superiority, which, obviously, also says that neither side now has achieved military superiority.

First, the fundamental objective in Soviet military doctrine is the achievement of military superiority. This fact directly contradicts the agreed statement.

Second, a major Soviet propaganda disinformation theme repeated endlessly since 1975 has been a resolute denial that the Soviets were seeking or had achieved military superiority. The Soviet objective in this Active Measure disinformation campaign was to prevent the U.S. from rearming. It now appears the Administration is now actively supporting this Soviet objective!

Third, this U.S.-Soviet agreement totally contradicts repeated U.S. assessments that the Soviets have already achieved military superiority. At least 8 times since 1982 it has been publicly conceded that the Soviets have achieved military superiority. For example, as recently as the following dates you have stated:

September 18, 1985:

"The United States is still well behind the Soviet Union in literally every kind of offensive weapon, both conventional and in the strategic weapons."

April 2, 1985:

"The Soviet Union virtually outnumbers us in any type of weapon you want to name. They are about 3 to 1 in nuclear megatonnage over us. They outnumber us in conventional

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The President
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weapons in almost every category. Their navy has several hundred more ships than we have."

March 18, 1985:

"They [the Soviets] already outnumber us greatly in offensive weapons..."

March 23, 1983:

"...The Soviets have a present margin of superiority."

March 31, 1982:

"The Soviet Union does have a definite margin of superiority-- enough so that there is risk."

The facts, numbers and trends in comparative military capabilities confirm U.S. assessments of Soviet military superiority. Senator Tower was correct when he stated in April 1984 that due to Congressional cut backs, the gaps between the U.S. and Soviets had continued to widen since 1980. Our best intelligence estimates show that in the key indices of military power the Soviet advantages will also continue to widen over the next five years. But, these estimates of growing Soviet superiority assume full funding by Congress of Administration defense budget requests. So it is clear that we are getting further and further behind the Soviets, even if full Congressional funding of your defense requests is assumed. Why has the Administration agreed to contradict your own accurate and confirmed assessments?

Fourth, U.S. agreement that the Soviets do not have military superiority could gravely undercut our efforts to restore American military power. In your speech to the Joint Session of Congress on November 21, 1985, you returned to a 1984 campaign theme when you stated:

"America is once again strong...we must not now abandon policies that work. I need your continued support to keep America strong."

But, as you yourself have publicly conceded, the Reagan Administration is now over \$35 billion behind the Carter Administration in defense spending through FY 1985, due to Congressional cut backs.

Why should the Congress not continue to slash proposed defense budgets if the Administration agrees that the Soviets neither seek nor have military superiority?

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In sum, The U.S.-Soviet Joint Statement is not consistent with the facts, directly undermines our defense programs in Congress and worse still, for the world to see, demonstrates the ability of the Soviets to coerce a U.S. statement which directly serves Soviet interests.

Very respectfully,

Steve Symms
William Bell

Copies to:

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Secretary of Defense
Chairman, JCS
Director, CIA
Director, ACDA